

DESCRIPTION OF METHODOLOGY FOR THE UNITED STATES MARITIME ADMINISTRATION  
CRUISE PASSENGER STATISTICS DATABASE (REVISED 12/04)

**PURPOSE:**

The Cruise Passenger Statistics data series covers seventeen major cruise lines that operate North American cruises with a U.S. port of call. The product is intended to provide the industry with a source of timely and accurate market information, supplying analysts with a tool for evaluating industry demand. The data is issued quarterly in either Access or Excel format. It is offered on a subscription basis at \$1,200 for calendar year 2004 data. Historical data (2001-2003) are also available (CY 2003 at \$1200; CY 2002 and 2003 at \$600 each). Certain high level aggregate data from the database is available on the Maritime Administration website at [www.marad.dot.gov/marad\\_statistics](http://www.marad.dot.gov/marad_statistics).

**SOURCE:**

The passenger figures are derived from the U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement Vessel Entrance and Clearance documents. Other data elements are derived from multiple data sources available in the Maritime Administration's Office of Statistical and Economic Analysis.

**COVERAGE:**

**Seventeen Cruise Lines:**

Carnival Cruise Line  
Celebrity Cruises  
Costa Cruise Line  
Crystal Cruises  
Cunard Line  
Disney Cruise Line  
Holland America Line  
MSC Italian Cruises\*  
Norwegian Cruise Line  
Oceania Cruises\*  
Princess Cruises  
Radisson Seven Seas Cruises\*  
Royal Caribbean International  
SeaDream Yacht Club\*  
Silversea Cruises\*  
The Yachts of Seabourn\*  
Windstar Cruises\*

\*Data available for CY 2003 and 2004 only.

- Covers all cruises that include a United States port of call, except for the exclusions described below.
- For foreign departure ports, the data is acquired from a subsequent U.S. entrance port.

## EXCLUSIONS:

- Excludes full data for Round-the-World cruises because they load passengers at more than one U.S. port and it is not possible to give an accurate passenger count coupled with the number of days each passenger has been on board. However, the data may include segments of this type of cruise, if the segment data is reliable. If so, its destination and number of days will be shown as associated with the segment and not the full cruise.
- Excludes segments of long cruises that do not begin or end in the U.S. For certain cruises (such as a “Round South America” voyage) that are sold by the cruise line in segments, we can not be sure of the number of passengers carried on segments that do not begin or end in the U.S.
- Data for calendar years 2002 and 2001 only includes the 10 Cruise Lines that operated vessels with passenger capacities greater than 750 passengers.

## DESTINATION LIST:

All cruises are assigned to one of the following destinations:

Alaska  
Bahamas  
Bermuda  
Canada/New England  
Eastern Caribbean  
Hawaii  
Mexico (Pacific)  
Nowhere  
Pacific Coast  
South America  
South Pacific/Far East  
Southern Caribbean  
Trans-Panama Canal  
Transatlantic  
Western Caribbean

## DESTINATION EXPLANATIONS:

Bahamas:

- Cruises that only go to ports in the Bahamas

Caribbean:

Caribbean voyages are assigned to one of three categories on the basis of the farthest area from the departure port. However, in certain cases where the preponderance of ports are

in one area and perhaps only a single port in another area, the assignment is made according to the area served for most of the cruise.

Eastern Caribbean:

- Includes Eastern Caribbean ports as far south as St. Maarten and as far west as Haiti

Southern Caribbean:

- Includes all ports south of St. Maarten and along the northern coast of South America far as Aruba

Western Caribbean:

- Includes ports in Mexico, Central America, Columbia, and islands west of Haiti
- Also includes Panama Canal cruises that do not fully transit and typically turn at Gatun Lake

Hawaii:

- Most of these are either inter-island cruises that begin and end in Hawaii or a cruise to or from the Mainland that involve inter-island visits
- Also includes certain cruises to or from places such as Australia, New Zealand, or the Far East when they involve calls at more than one of the Hawaiian Islands

Nowhere:

- These are short cruises, typically two days, that begin and end at the same port and call at no other ports

Pacific Coast:

- North American cruises that traverse the west coast of the United States and are not destined for Alaska, Hawaii, or Mexico (Pacific)

South America:

- Includes cruises from the U.S. that terminate in South America or originate in South America and terminate in the U.S.
- Excludes portions of South American cruises (e.g. Valparaiso to Buenos Aires) that do not begin or end in the U.S.

CAPACITY:

Normal Capacity

- Based upon 2 per stateroom

Maximum Capacity

- Maximum number of passengers carried using third and fourth berths

MISSING DATA:

For the historical data, there were certain cruises for which the actual passenger numbers were no longer available when the project was initiated. In those cases, the gap was filled by an estimate based upon the average of the passenger numbers of the sailings before and after the gaps. However, the amount of missing data was less than 1 percent for 2002 and less than 3 percent for 2001. In addition, in certain cases where cruises were made up of more than one clearly definable segment, we prorated the passenger figures for each individual segment to arrive at one weighted passenger number for the cruise as a whole.

#### INQUIRIES/COMMENTS/SUGGESTIONS:

Inquiries regarding the data series and any comments or suggestions should be made to:

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